

# THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

## Extended Debates in Both Houses of Congress Yesterday.

## The Freedmen's Bureau in the Senate and the Representation Basis Amendment in the House.

## Interesting Proceedings Over the Former Matter.

## Various Amendments Set Up by Mr. Davis and Bowled Down by the Republicans.

## No Decisive Vote Reached on Either Question.

## Report of the Senate Judiciary Committee Against Repealing the Test Oath.

## Presentation of a Woman's Rights Petition.

## General Terry Forbids the Enforcement of the Virginia Legislature's Vagrant Act.

## He Says It Would Revive Slavery in a Worse Form than Ever.

## ARMY AND NAVY BULLETINS.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 24, 1866.

### THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU BILL.

The bill to enlarge the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau again held a distressing monopoly of the Senate to-day, and at one time promised to hold it enthralled during the entire night. Both sides agreed, prior to a late adjournment, that the bill should come to a decisive vote to-morrow at three o'clock. Senators McDougall and Davis exclusively conducted the fight against the bill. The latter gentleman was the most zealous in the opposition, having introduced nearly a dozen amendments, threatening to demand the yeas and nays upon each, and finally each vote with a speech of from ten minutes to half an hour. At five o'clock Mr. Davis still held the floor, and made the announcement that he was intending to make a speech upon the measure pending its third reading, the bill having been ordered to a third reading. Mr. Trumbull, who conducts the prosecution of this bill, had been growing weary at the continued introduction of preposterous amendments, and at this juncture was quite indignant with the announcement that Mr. Davis intended to submit his views yet more at length. He indignantly supposed that the physique of the persistent orator would scarcely withstand the fatigue of going on to-night, the gentleman from Illinois insisted that Mr. Davis should proceed with his remarks, which the latter immediately commenced, in no wise disconcerted at the prospect of devoting time for three or four hours longer. Happily Senator Hendricks discovered that there would be no objection from either side to take a decisive vote upon the question at three o'clock to-morrow, whereupon Mr. Trumbull allowed himself to be mollified, and the Senate adjourned. Mr. Garrett Davis, therefore, holds the floor to-morrow morning, and will undoubtedly make an industrious use of his time until three o'clock.

### PROHIBITION OF PAYMENT FOR SLAVES ON ANY BASIS.

Senator Wilson's joint resolution for amending the constitution prohibiting payment for slaves or of any debt contracted by the rebellion went to the Judiciary Committee this morning without dissent.

### THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE ON THE NEW REPRESENTATION SCHEME.

Debate on the constitutional amendment regarding representation and direct taxes was continued at length in the House to-day without arriving at any conclusion thereon. Mr. Stevens has determined to give the debaters loose rein, and will not press the previous question so long as members manifest a disposition to talk. Eight distinct and well defined speeches were made, only one of which—a weak one by an Illinois member—was in favor of the passage of the amendment. It was reported by Mr. Stevens. The original has been so thickly plastered with amendments and suggestions that it appears as if hardly anyone could read it. An impressive scene occurred when Mr. Shellabarger, of Ohio, universally recognized as the ablest member on the republican side of the House, enumerated its faults and proposed his substitute. Members from both sides gathered about him in the aisle and listened to his clear statement with intense interest. That Stevens and Mr. Cullender, the godfathers of the amendment, were the only ones bold enough to question the position of the eloquent gentleman. Mr. Shellabarger's suggestion is that representation be based upon the number of male citizens in each State who come within the prescribed qualifications for voters for the most popular branch of the Legislature in said State.

### DEPARTURE OF A GOVERNMENT AGENT FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Dr. Fowell starts for North Carolina to-morrow. He is charged with various matters connected with the Treasury and Post Office Departments and the Freedmen's Bureau.

### TRIAL OF GENERAL BAKER.

In the Criminal Court to-day was commenced the trial of Gen. Lafayette C. Baker, against whom there are three indictments based on the complaint of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Cobb, alleging false imprisonment, extortion, assault and robbery, by conveying away from her four United States Treasury notes of the value of fifty dollars each. This is the well known pardon broker case. Mrs. Cobb admitted on the stand that she was engaged in this business, and that she had procured three pardons previous to the one which was returned to the President by General Baker, and which the latter had procured for her.

### THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

### SENATE.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 24, 1866.

### COURT OF CLAIMS.

Mr. Trumbull, (rep. of Ill.), from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported, without amendment, the bill in relation to the Court of Claims.

This bill repeals the fourth section of the act of March 3, 1860, and allows an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, at any time within ninety days after its passage, in the cases mentioned in the fifth section of said act of 1860, except in cases in which money has been paid into the Treasury. The bill does as the opening of the term the first Monday in December.

### RELIEF OF FREEMEN.

Mr. Cullender, (rep. of Iowa), from the Naval Committee, reported the bill to amend the act for the relief of seamen and others, with amendments, one of which guards against payment for costs which have accrued through the negligence or want of will, or fraud of the officer making the application.

### PROVISION AGAINST PAYMENT FOR SLAVES ON DEBT CONTRACTED IN AID OF THE REBELLION.

Mr. Wilson, (rep. of Mass.), offered a joint resolution, proposing, as an amendment to the constitution of the United States, that no payment shall ever be

## NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1866.

made by the United States, or any State, or on any account, of the emancipation of any slave or slaves, or for, or on account of, any debt contracted or incurred in aid of the rebellion against the national government; which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

### NEW SENATOR FROM IOWA.

Mr. Samuel J. Kirkwood was sworn in as a Senator from Iowa till the 31st of March, 1867.

### RECEIPT FOR THE REBELLION OF THE SOUTH.

Mr. Sumner, (rep. of Mass.), presented the petition of the citizens of Colorado, now in New York, asking for the immediate admission of that Territory as a State, but upon condition of the word "white" being stricken from her constitution.

Mr. Sumner also presented a similar petition from the same subject; also a petition asking for the extension of the right of suffrage to women.

### THE RECIROCITY TREATY.

A meeting was to-day announced to take place to-night at the Treasury Department, at which the Secretary of the Treasury, the Committee of Ways and Means and the delegation from the British provinces were to confer in relation to the extension of the Reciprocity treaty.

### FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

It is stated that one hundred thousand dollars of the new issues of fractional currency, which are intended to supersede the old issues of small circulating notes, will be issued daily during the coming week.

### REDEMPTION OF SEVEN-THIRTY BONDS.

The interest of the seven-thirty bonds, amounting to seven million three hundred thousand dollars, falling due on the 15th inst., is being redeemed by the Treasury Department and all designated depositories. Over one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars in coupons have already been redeemed.

### THE CANNON CAPTURED FROM THE REBELS.

The Secretary of War communicated to the House to-day, in compliance with a resolution, the correspondence of the United States Military Academy and the chief engineers of the army relative to marking with the names of battles the captured guns. It appears that there are upwards of thirty cannon at West Point, among them some of historic value, and not a few of foreign manufacture, in charge of Captain Balch, who asked instructions relative to marking them with suitable inscriptions. General Deland suggests that it is not desirable to inscribe on any of these guns evidence of capture as trophies of war, to remain at an institution where young men from all parts of our united and once happy country are to meet and contract friendships. He says:—

It should be our duty with these young men to present nothing of an irritating or boastful spirit to be placed constantly before the eyes of those whose nation of country suffered by the rebellion. Let history tell the evils this rebellion has produced, and let us, through the instrumentality of the Military Academy, renew its powerful influence in establishing national feelings through the friendships that are sure to flow from a salutary fellowship under military training for years.

These guns should be preserved as a memorial of the military art of the service, indicating the period and place of manufacture of each, and description of gun, omitting everything connected with their capture or use.

### THE VIRGINIA VAGRANT ACT—GENERAL TERRY ORDERS ITS NON-ENFORCEMENT.

The following important order has been issued by Major General Terry:—

### GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 4.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA, JAN. 24, 1866.

By a statute passed at the present session of the Legislature of Virginia, entitled "A bill providing for the punishment of vagrants," it is enacted, among other things, that any justice of the peace, upon the complaint of any out of certain officers therein named, may issue his warrant for the apprehension of any person alleged to be a vagrant, and cause him to be taken into custody and brought before him; and that if upon due examination said justice of the peace shall find that such person is a vagrant, he shall cause him to be taken into custody and committed to the jail of the county for a term not exceeding thirty days, and by any constable of the county hired by him to be kept in custody, and that if he fails to do the best wages which can be procured, he shall be liable to the support of himself and his family. The said statute further provides that in case any vagrant shall be taken into custody during the term of his confinement, he shall be free to leave the place where he is confined, and to seek employment elsewhere, and that if he fails to do so, he shall be liable to the support of himself and his family. The said statute further provides that in case any vagrant shall be taken into custody during the term of his confinement, he shall be free to leave the place where he is confined, and to seek employment elsewhere, and that if he fails to do so, he shall be liable to the support of himself and his family.

It is the policy of this department to enforce the law, and to use such military force as may be necessary to do so. Mr. McDougall called for the yeas and nays on the adoption of his substitute, and the yeas and nays were taken, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Davis offered an amendment to the original bill, to strike out the provision authorizing the extension of military jurisdiction over the employees and agents of the Freedmen's Bureau. The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Davis offered an amendment to strike out the section conferring land titles under General Sherman's order. The amendment was adopted.

The Chair stated that this amendment had already been voted upon and rejected.

Mr. Davis then offered an amendment prohibiting the exercise of military jurisdiction by agents of the Bureau in States where the civil courts are unimpeded, and demanded the yeas and nays on its adoption. Decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Davis offered an amendment providing for the right of appeal from the decisions of agents and other officers of the Freedmen's Bureau to the Circuit Courts of the United States. Negatived.

The question was then taken on the substitute of the whole bill offered by Mr. McDougall, and mentioned heretofore, which was passed by yeas and nays.

At half past four o'clock Mr. Davis rose to speak on the general merits of the bill.

Mr. Davis then spoke for two hours, and he did not feel compelled to sit so long.

Mr. Anthony, (rep. of N. Y.), suggested that the Senate be urged, with an understanding that a vote be taken on the bill to-morrow at three o'clock.

The question on adjournment was decided as follows:—

Yeas—Messrs. Buckalew, Davis, Foster, Guthrie, Hendricks, Henderson, Norton, McLaughlin, Riddle, Salisbury, Sherman, Sprague, Stanton, McMillan, Wright—14.

Nays—Messrs. Anthony, Brown, Chandler, Clark, Cragin, Doolittle, Edwards, Evans, Fessenden, Fox, Howard, Howe, Poland, Pomfret, Ramsey, Sherman, Sprague, Stewart, Sumner, Tilden, Van Winkle, Wade, Wells, Wilson and Gates—22.

Mr. Davis proceeded with his remarks, when Mr. Hendricks, (dem. of Ind.), suggested that there should be no opposition to adjournment, and adjournment was taken.

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## NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1866.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, (dem. of N. Y.), rose to a point of order. It was "whether this was a republican caucus?" The Speaker replied that it was not a point of order.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said that it was the duty of members to take the State.

The Speaker said that it was a point of order, and gentlemen would please take their seats.

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